THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850.

SUMTER, S. C., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 1888.

"Be Just and Fear not--Let all the Ends thou Aims't at, be thy Country's, thy God's and Truth's "

New Series-Vol. VII. No. 21.

Che Telatchman and Southron.

Consolidated Aug. 2, 1881.]

Published every Wednesday,

All communications which subserve private interests will be charged for as advertisements. - Obituaries and tributes of respect will be

SPECIAL BARGAINS.

See our \$8.00 and \$10.00

Trimmings to suit.

All our best Calicoes, formbest Black and Mourning styles. Ladies' Linen, Collars at 60c. a dozen.

Do not forget to see our Dress Clasps, 10c. to 25c., worth 50 and 75.

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Don't fail to look at our Remnant Basket. Do you wan't a Bustle? All

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Will close out our "all Wool Dean Suits" at \$9.00; price at beginning of season was \$12.00. Youths' of same at \$7.00. Big reduction in Overcoats;

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CLOTHING

Sing at greatly reduced prices.

Nice Hats, and ch, how Low!

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Just marked down, an Ele- of gant lot of Ladies Shoes, from \$2.50 to \$1.99. This is not a chestnut.

We have lots of other Bargains in ALL Departments, including

GROCERY,

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NOTICE.

SUMTER. S. C., Nov. 15, 1887.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REquirements of Section 5170. Revised Statutes of the United States, the following Charter of "The Simonds National Bank of Sumter," is published for the information of all

R. M. WALLACE, Vice President.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY, WASHINGTON, November 8th, 1887 Whereas, by satisfactory evidence presented

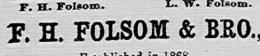
to the undersigned it has been made to appear that "The Simonds National Bank of Sumter," in the Town of Sumter, in the County of Sumter, and State of South Carolina, has complied with all the provisions of the Statntes of the United States, required to be complied with before an association shall be authorized to commence the business of Bank-

Now therefore, I, Jesse D. Abrahams, Deputy and acting Comptroller of the Currency, do eby certify that "The Simonds National Bank of Sumter," in the Town of Sumter, in the County of Sumter, and State of South Carolina, is authorized to commence the busaness of Banking as provided in Section fiftyone hundred and sixty-nine of the Revised Statutes of the United States. In testimony whereof witness my hand

and Seal of office this 8th day of [L.S.] November, 1887. J. D. ABRAHAMS. Deputy and Acting

Comptroller of the Currency. No. 3809. Nov. 16

L. W. Folsom. F. H. Folsom.







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Needles, &c. Repairing promptly done and warranted by practical workmen. Orders from the country will receive our careful attention. Try us.

. Nov 9 o

Dec. 14

Cloaks, reduced to \$5.00. All Wool Flannel Dresses 22 to 54 inches, at greatly reduced prices. Cloaks, reduced to \$5.00. By calling on us before placing your orders. We have the Largest Assortment of FANCY CRACKERS Ever offered in this City.

erly at 7c., now reduced to 5c.; these not only in Fancies, but in Palace Dry Goods Emporium.

New Silks!

tyles to be had here. Jerseys from 50c. to \$3.00. New Dress Goods!

JUST RECEIVED FOR THE

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

We cordially invite the ladies to call in and see our Grand Line of

Silks and Dress Goods,

which we have just received and will sell TAX RETURNS WAY BELOW VALUE. at exceedingly Low Prices, also a new line

Trimmings to Match.

Any one desiring to purchase any kind of Dry Goods will be considerably benefitted by calling on us and see our nice assortment Before you buy be sure and land close prices. We have reduced some lines of our Dress Goods Stock to very low ALTAMONT MOSES. prices. We still offer:

1 case more Solid Black Calico at 5c .- sold everywhere at

15 pieces Dress Silesias at 7½c.—sold elsewhere at 10 cts. Crinoline in all colors at 7½c.—regular price 10c.

Only 20 dozen Doileys left at 35c. a dozen—good value for 50 cts.

10 dozen Coutil Corsets at 75 cts.—better than any dollar corset in town.

20 doz. Gent's Neck Ties reduced from 75c to 48c. And lots of other bargains we have not space to mention.

We invite the public to call and see

ur Premium Black Silk

MONDAY, JANUARY 2d.

Remember the dates and be sure to get a ticket to give you a chance at winning same.

DRESS-MAKING AND LADIES' UNDERWEAR A SPECIALTY

SCHWARTZ BROS.

PALACE DRY GOODS EMPORIUM.

SUMTER, S. C.

HOLIDAY Countege Narona

WE ARE NOW OFFERING A LARGE understood between us, I suppose, about the

GOODS

Fancy Groceries,

And Nick Nacks for the CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

In buying you will SAVE MONEY

Ever offered in this City.

These are Goods of the very best make. QUR

Are of the most celebrated Brands, and they

are all Guaranteed. WE ARE SELLING

2lb. Cans Tomatoes, \$1.05 per Doz. 3lb. Cans Tomatoes, very fine, \$1.40 per Doz. Salmon, 15 and 20 cts. per can. Best imported Sardines, \$2.10 per Dz. For a moment he hesitated. Thus far, As he crossed the hall on his way to the

Point Lace Flour bbl., or 90 cts. for 25 lbs.

OUR

CURRANTS AND MACE. We are bandling very largely.

Our Prices before buying. In connection with our Grocery Stock, we

DRY GOODS,

NOTIONS,

Shoes and Hats, ROCK BOTTOM PRICES.

Whips, Whips, Whips. A job lot of Whips at 65 cts., worth any time \$1 50.

Come and See Us Now.

Next to C. E. Stubbs' Office.

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Tindall's Store, Tuesday, January 3. Bloom Hill, Wednesday, January 4. Wedgefield, Thursday, January 5. Stateburg, Friday, January 6. Gordon's Mill, Friday, January 6. Magnolia, Monday, January 9.

Mayesville, Tuesday, January 10. Johnson's Store, Wednesday, Jan-

Shilob, Thursday, January 12. Lynchburg, Friday, January 13. Reid's Mill, Monday, Jacuary 16.

day, January 17 and 18. Mannville, Thursday, January, 19. Smithville, Friday, January 20.

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Township, January 19.

At the Auditor's office in Sumter, from the night. Let me see you safe back to your hociusive. Parties making Returns by mail or by another person will please give full first awakened her out of a deep sleep. name of Taxpaver and the Township the

> W. R. DELGAR, Auditor Sumter County.



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LL RIGHT! NOW! We would be A glad to help you on the way rejoicing, by supplying you with a choice Family Bible, any style and price: twenty-two dollars, down to a complete, substantial, and beautiful Bible for only three dollars and fifty cents. My address, Mayesville, S. C. Yours faithfully, HARVEY

Dec 21

By WILKIE COLLINS.

THE FIRST PART.

CHAPTER XX.

"Shall I see you again?" she asked, as she held out her hand to take leave. "It is quite

have not chosen your subject wisely?"

you have got a subject in your head give it to sleep in the room if you had reserved it," to me. I answer for the characters and the he said. "Do you wish me to leave the hotel?" "You answer for the characters and the committed and hastened to repair it. "Cer-

dialogue," Francis repeated. "That's a bold | tainly not, sir! We will do our best to make.

She caught him by the arm and drew him | tive but to grant the manager's request. away from the colonnade into the solitary "There is an end to the countess' wild middle space of the square. "Now tell me," scheme," he thought to himself, as he retired by the housekeeper, the manager being abshe said, eagerly. "Here, where nobody is for the night. "So much the better for the sent for a day or two on business connected bear us. How am I interested in it? How! | counters!"

serious object in life. "I may be on the track | countess. of another 'Corsican Brothers,'" he thought. "A new piece of that sort would be £10,000 in

my pocket at least." With these motives (worthy of the single made Francis a successful manager) he related without further hesitation, what his own experience had been, and what the experience of his relatives had been, in the haunted hotel. He even described the outbreak of superstitious terror which had escaped Mrs. Norbury's ignorant maid. "Sad stuff, if you look at it reasonably," he remarked. "But there is something dramatic in the notion of the ghostly influence making itself felt by the relations in succession, as they one after another enter the fatal roomuntil the one chosen relative comes who will

rible truth. Material for a play, countessfirst rate material for a play!" There he paused. She neither moved nor spoke. He stooped and looked closer at her. What impression had be produced? It was an impression which his utmostingenuity had failed to anticipate. She stood by his side— just as she stood before Agnes when her question about Ferrari was plainly answered at last-like a woman turned to stone. Her eyes were vacant and rigid; all the life in her face had faded out of it. Francis took her of his life my miserable husband repented his by the hand. Her hand was as cold as the desertion of her. Sho will see what none of

her if she was ill. Not a muscle in her moved. He might as well have spoken to the dead. "Surely," he said, "you are not foolish enough to take what I have been telling you

was making an effort to speak to him. "Louder," he said, "I can't hear you." She struggled to recover possession of herself. A faint light began to soften the dull,

cold stare of her eyes. In a moment more she spoke so that he could hear her. "I never thought of the other world," she murmured, in low, dull tones like a woman Her mind had gone back to the day of her

last memorable interview with Agnes; she was slowly recalling the confession that had escaped her, the warning words which she had spoken at that past time. Necessarily incapable of understanding this, Francis looked at her in perplexity. She went on in the same dull vacant tone, steadily following Bishopville, Tuesday and Wednes- out her own train of thought with her heedless eves on his face, and her wandering mind far away from him.

"I said some trifling event would bring us together the next time. I was wrong. No trifling event will bring us together. I said Mechanicsville, Saturday, January I might be the person who told her what had become of Ferrari, if she forced me to it. Shall I feel some other influence than hers! Will be force me to it? When she sees him,

shall I see him too?" Her head sunk a little, her heavy eyelids dropped slowly, she heaved a long, low, weary Rembert's Store, Rafting Creek sigh. Francis put her arm in his, and made an attempt to rouse her.

"Come, countess, you are weary and overwrought. We have had enough talking totel. Is it far from here?" She started when he moved and obliged her to move with him, as if he had suddenly "Not far," she said, faintly. "The old hotel on the quay. My mind's in a stronge state: I have forgotten the name."

him in silence as far as the end of the Piazethave something to ask you. I want to wait and think."

She recovered her lost idea after a long salary. "Are you going to sleep in the room tonight?" she asked. He told her that another traveler was in

aunger has reserved it for me to-merrow," added, "if I wish to have it." "No," she said; "you must give it up." "To whom?" "To me.

He started. "After what I have told you, do you really wish to sleep in that room tomorrow night? "I must sleep in it." "Are you not afraid?" "I am horribly afraid."

you take the room! You are not obliged to relations have arranged to accompany them occupy it unless you like." "I was not obliged to go to Venice when I left America," she answered. "And yet I Parisian colleague, Francis made his preparacame here. I must take the room and keep tions for returning to Milan by the train of the room until"- She broke off at those , that day, words. "Never mind the rest," she said. "It ! doesn't interest you." It was useless to dispute with her. Fran-

cis changed the subject. "We can do nothing

widow i am known here. As Countess Narona I am known here. I want to be said nothing more. He was ashamed to acknown this time to strangers in Venice; I and knowledge it to himself, but he feit an irretraveling under a common English name." sistible curiosity to know what would happen She besitated, and stood still. "What has when Agnes arrived at the hotel. Besides, come to me?" she muttered to herself. "Some things I remember and some I forget. I for- 'He got into his gondola, respecting the confi-

got Baniell's-and now I forget my English | dence of "Mrs. James." She drew him hurriedly into the hall of the notel, on the wall of which hung a list of vis- | rived, punctual to their appointment. itors' names. Running her finger slowly down the list, she pointed to the English name she had assumed-"Mrs. James."

"Remember that when you call to-morrow," she said. "My head is heavy. Good Francis went back to his own hotel, wondering what the events of the next-lay would bring forth. A new turn in his affairs had taken place in his absence. As he crossed the hall he was requested by one of the servants to walk into the private office. The

manager was waiting there with a gravely preoccupied manner, as if he had something play?" serious to say. He regretted to hear that Mr. Francis recalled his extraordinary experience of that evening in the renumbered room, of the family, discovered mysterious sources "My stay in Venice is uncertain," he replied. of discomfort in the new hotel. He had If you have anything more to say about this been informed in strict confidence of Mr. dramatic venture of yours, it may be as well | Westwick's extraordinary objection to the to say it now. Have you decided on a sub- atmosphere of the bedroom upstairs. Withject already? I know the public taste in out presuming to discuss the matter, he must England better than you do-I might save | beg to be excused from reserving the room you some waste of time and trouble, if you for Mr. Westwick after what had happened. Francis answered sharply, a little ruffled by "I don't care what subject I write about so | the tone in which the manager had spoken to long as I write," she answered carelessly. "If | him. "I might, very possibly, have declined

way of speaking for a beginner! I wonder | you comfortable while you stay with us. I if I could shake your sublime confidence in | beg your pardon if I have said anything to yourself if I suggested the most ticklish sub- offend you. The reputation of an establishject to handle which is known to the stage! | ment like this is a matter of very serious imwith a ghost in it? A true story, mind! happened up stairs? The two French gentlefounded on events in this very city, in which | men have kindly promised to keep it a secret." This apology left Francis no polite alterna-

The manager saw the error that be had

He rose late the next morning. Inquiring Still holding his arm, she shook him in her for his Parisian friends, he was informed that impatience to hear the coming disclosure. both the French gentlemen had left for Milan. amused by her ignorant belief in herself, he restaurant be noticed the head porter chalkhad merely spoken in jest. Now, for the first | ing the numbers of the rooms on some articles ness, he began to consider what he was about stairs. One trunk attracted his attention by CITRON, his brother and sister and himself. Or, fail- name, "Mrs. James!" He at once inquired

> She was seated in a dark corner with her head down and her arms crossed over her bosom. "Yes," she said, in a tone of weary impatience, before Francis could speak to hearted devotion to dramatic business which her, "I thought it best not to wait for you-I | part of the hotel. determined to get here before anybody else could take the room."

"Have you taken it for long?" Francis "You told me Miss Lockwood would be here in a week's time. I have taken it for a "What has Miss Lockwood to do with it?" "She has everything to do with it-she must s'eep in the room. I shall give the

room up to her when she comes here." Francis began to understand the superstitious purpose that she had in view. "Are see the unearthly creature and know the ter- you, an educated woman, really of the same opinion as my sister's maid?" he exclaimed. "Assuming your absurd superstition to be a serious thing, you are taking the wrong means to prove it true. If I and my brother and sister have seen nothing, how should Agnes Lockwood discover what was not revealed to us? She is only distantly related to the Montbarrys-she is only our cousin." "She was nearer to the heart of the Montbarry who is dead than any of you," the countess answered, sternly. "To the last day

pavement they were standing on. He asked | you have seen-she shall have the room." Francis listened, utterly at a loss to account for the motives that animated her. "I don't see what interest you have in trying this extraordinary experiment," he said. "It is my interest not to try it! It is my interest to fly from Venice and never set eyes

Her lips moved slowly. As it seemed, sho on Agnes Lockwood or any of your family again!"
"What prevents you from doing that?" She started to her feet and looked at him wildly. "I know no more what prevents me than you do!" she burst out. "Some will that is stronger than mine drives me on to my destruction in spite of my own self!" She suddenly sat down again and waved ber hand

for him to go. "Leave me," she said. "Leave me to my thoughts." Francis left her, firmly persuaded by this time that she was out of her senses. For the rest of the day he saw nothing of her. The night, so far as he knew, passed quietly. The next morning be breakfasted early, determined to wait in the restaurant for the anpearance of the countess. She came in and her disposal ordered her breakfast quietly, looking dull, worn and self absorbed, as she had looked

table and asked if anything had happened in "Nothing," she answered. "You have rested as well as usual?" letters this morning? Have you heard when

she is coming! "I have had no letters. Are you really golast night not altered the opinion which you expressed to me yesterday?"

"Not in the least." The momentary gleam of animation which had crossed her face when she questioned him about Agnes died out of it again when he answered her. She looked, she spoke, she eat her breakfast with a vacant resignation, like a woman who had done with hopes, done with interest, done with everything but the | tions on the walls and ceilings were carefully mechanical movements and fustincts of life. | copied from the exquisitely graceful designs Francis went out on the customary traveler's pilgrimage to the shrines of Titian and and Tintorete. After some hours of absence he found a letter waiting for him when he He led her on slowly. She accompanied got back to the hotel. It was written by his brother Henry, and it recommended him to ta. There when the full view of the moonlit return to Milan immediately. The proprie-Lagoon revealed itself, she stopped him as he tor of a French theatre, recently arrived turned toward the Riva degli Schiavoni. "I from Venice, was trying to induce the famous dancer whom Francis had engaged to break faith with him and accept a higher

Having made this startling announcement, Heary proceeded to inform his brother that Lord and Lady Montbarry, with Agnes and the children, would arrive in Venice in three | who asked for the key. I will put your ossession of the room that night. "But the days more, "They know nothing of our ad ventures at the hotel," Henry wrote, "and | they have telegraphed to the manager for the accommodation that they want. There would be something absurdly sayerstitious in our giving them a warning which would frighten the ladies and children out of the best hotel in Venice. We shall be a strong with her pail in her hand, leaving the room party this time-too strong a party for by way of the dressing room and the back ghosts! I shall meet the travelers on their stairs. As she passed out of sight the lady on arrival, of course, and try my luck again at the second floor (no other, it is needless to what you call the haunted hetel. Arthur "So I should have thought after what I Barville and his wife have already got as far have observed in you to-night. Why should on their way as Trent; and two of the hely's on the journey to Venice." Naturally indigment at the conduct of his

brother's telegram Lad been received. The telegram had arrived, and, to the surprise of to night," he said. "I will call on you to- "I thought you would refuse to let any more morrow morning and hear what you think of of the family into the house," he said, satiri-They moved on again to the hotel. As dash of respect) in the same tone, "No. they approached the door Francis asked if she 13A' is safe, sir, in the occupation of a stranwas staying in Venice under her own name. | ger. I am the servant of the company, and She shook her head. "As your brother's I dare not turn money out of the hotel." Hearing this, Francis said goodby-and

"Mrs. James" had repose I confidence in him.

Toward evening, on the third day, Lord Montbarry and his traveling companions ar-

were next committed to his care. Last of all,



barry's hand, passed in her turn to the steps. What do you say, countess, to entering the portance. May I hope that you will do us door of the hotel the countess (eying her lists with Shakespeare and trying a drama | the great favor to say nothing about what has | through an opera glass) noticed that she paused to look at the outside of the building, and that her face was very pale.

CHAPTER XXI.

Lord and Lady Mortbarry were received with the affairs of the hotel.

The rooms reserved for the travelers, on the first floor, were three in number, consisting of two bedrooms opening into each other, and communicating on the left with a drawing room. Complete so far, the arrangements proved to be less satisfactory in reference to time, impressed by her irresistible earnest of luggage which were waiting to go up the third bedroom required for Agnes and for his niece wished him good night he abruptly the cidest daughter of Lord Montbarry, who said to her, "Marian, I want to know what from a more serious point of view. With her the extraordinary number of old traveling usually slept with her on their travels. The part of the hotel you sleep in Marian, Which is the best on the market, \$6.10 per knowledge of all that had passed in the old labels left on it. The porter was marking it bed chamber on the right of the drawing puzzled by the question, answered that she palace, before its transformation into a hotel, at the moment—and the number was "13A." I room was already occupied by an English it was surely possible that they might suggest Francis instantly looked at the card fastened | widowlady. Other bed chambers at the other | Agnes." Not satisfied with that reply, Henry some explanation of what had happened to on the lid. It bore the common English end of the corridor were also let in every next inquired whether the bedroom was near case. There was, accordingly, no titernative | the rooms occupied by the other members of ing to do that, she might accidentally reveal about the lady. She had arrived early that but to place at the disposal of Agnes a com- the traveling party. Answering for the

Montbarry noticed that Agnes seated herself

she felt a little unnerved by the railway journey, and that was all. Hearing this, Lord Montbarry proposed that she should go out with him and try the experiment of balf an hour's walk in the cool air. Agnes giadly accepted the suggestion. They directed their steps toward the square St. Mark, so as to enjoy the breeze blowing over the lagoon. It was the first visit of Agnes to Venice. The fascination of the wonderful city of the waters exerted its full influence over her sensitive nature. The proposed half hour of the walk had passed away and was fast expanding to half an hour more before Lord Montbarry could dinner was waiting for them. As they returned, passing under the colonnade, neither of them noticed a lady in deep mourning

loitering in the open space of the square. She started as she recognized Agnes walking with the new Lord Montbarry, hesitated for a uroment and then followed them, at a discreet distance, back to the hotel. Lady Montbarry received Agnes in high spirits with news of an event which had happened in her absence. She had not left the hotel more than ten minutes before a little note in pencil was brought to Lady Montbarry by the housekeeper. The writer proved to be no less a person than the widow lady who occupied the room on the other side of the drawing room which her ladyship had vainly hoped to se-

cure for Agnes. Writing under the name of Mrs. James, the polite widow explained that she had heard from the housekeeper of the disappointment experienced by Lady Montbarry in the matter of the rooms. Mrs. James was quite alone; and, as long as her bedchamber was airy and comfortable, it mattered nothing to her whether she slept on the first or the second floor of the house. She had accordingly much pleasure in proposing to change rooms with Miss Lockwood. Her luggage had already been removed, and Miss Lockwood had only to take possession of the

Lady Montbarry continued, "and to thank when he last saw her. He hastened to her ber personally for her extreme kindness. But explanation of the panic and terror that had I was informed that she had gone out, with-"Quite as well as usual. Have you had any the pleasure of personally expressing our der these circumstances, but one alternative sense of Mrs. James' courtesy to-morrow. In the meantime, Agnes, I have ordered your boxes to be removed downstairs. Go and ing to stay here? Has your experience of | judge for yourseif, my dear, if that good lady has not given up to you the prettiest room in

Miss Lockwood to make a hasty toilet for

The new room at once produced a favorable impression on Agnes. The large window, opening into a baleony, commanded an turned into a little dressing room, and which case of the hotel, commonly ased by the servants. Noticing these aspects of the room at a grance, Agnes made the necessary change in her dress as quickly as possible. On her way back to the drawing room she was addressed by a chambermaid in the corridor, room this for the night, miss," the woman said, "and I will then bring the key back to

you in the drawing room. While the chambermaid was at her work a solitary lady lottering about the corridor of the second story, was watching her ever the add, than the countess herself) ran swiftly The chamb runid returned, completed her work, locked the door of the dressing room or the inner side, looked the principal entrance key to Agnes in the drawing room. The traveles were just sitting down to the harry of changing her dress? Sae rose

from the table at once in search of her watch; on the toilet table, as she had anticipated. Before leaving the room again she acted on Lady Montburry's advice and tried the key on the bill. in the lock of the di

> on her departure the countess, order. Tr. and S he confined air in the ward-

robe, ventured on stepping out of her hiding

THE TRUE SOUTHRON, Established June, 1868

place into the empty room. Entering the dressing room on tiptoe, she listened at the door until the silence outside "Mrs. James," sitting at the window of her informed her that the corridor was empty. room, watching for them, saw the new lord | Upon this she unlocked the door, and, passing. land from the gondola first. He handed his out, closed it again softly, leaving it to all apwife from the steps. The three children pearance (when viewed on the inner side) as carefully secured as Agnes had seen it when. Agnes appeared in the little back doorway of she tried the key in the lock with her own

While the Montbarrys were still at dinner,

Henry Westwick joined them, arriving from Milan.
When he entered the room, and again when he advanced to shake hands with her, Agues was conscious of a latent feeling which secretly reciprocated Henry's unconcealed pleasure on meeting her again. For a moment only she returned his look; and in that moment her own observation told her that she had silently encouraged him to hope. She saw it in the sudden glow of happiness

which overspread his face; and she con-

fusedly took refuge in the usual conventional inquiries relating to the relatives whom he Taking his place at the table, Henry gave a most amusing account of the position of lons manager of the French theatre on the other. Matters had proceeded to such extremities that the law had been colled on to. interfere, and had decided the dispute in favor of Francis. On winning the victory, the English manager had at once left Milan, recalled to London by the affairs of histheatre. He was accompanied on the journey back, as he had been accompanied on the journey out, by his sister. Resolved, after passing two nights of t rror in the Venetian hotel, never to enter it again, Mrs. Norbury asked to be excused from appearing at the

was glad to take advantage of her brother's escort to return to England. While the talk at the dinner table flowed easily onward, the evening time advanced to night, and it became necessary to think of

family festival, on the ground of ill health.

At her age traveling fatigued her, and she

sending the children to bed. . As Agnes rose to leave the room, accompa-ried by the eldest girl, she observed with sur-He looked serious and preoccapied, and whensome event in her own experience, which, morning, and she was then in the reading fortable room on the second floor. Lady child and wondering what Henry's object acting as a hint to a competent dramatist, room. Looking into the room he discovered | Montbarry vainly complained of this separa- could possibly be, Agnes mentioned the pomight prove to be the making of a play. a lady in it alone. Advancing a little nearer tion of one of the members of her traveling lite sacrifice made to her convenience by You will do well to call on us and get The prosperity of his theatre was his one he found himself face to face with the party from the rest. The housekeeper politely Mrs. James. "Thanks to that lady's kindother travelers to give up their rooms. She | the other side of the drawing room." Henry could only express her regret, and assure Miss | made no remark; he looked incomprehensi-Lockwood that her bed chamber on the sec- bly discontented as he opened the door for ond floor was one of the best rooms in that Agnes and her companion to pass out. After wishing them good night he waited in the On the retirement of the housekeeper Lady | corridor until he saw them enter the fatal corner room, and then he called abruptly to

apart, feeling apparently no interest in the his brother: "Come out, Stephen, and let us question of the bedrooms. Was she ill? No; smoke." As soon as the two brothers were at liberty. to speak together privately Henry explained the motive which had led to his stange inquiries about the bedrooms. Francis had informed him of the meeting with the countess at Venice, and of all that had followed it, and Henry now carefully repeated the narrative to his brother in all its details. "I am not satisfied," be added, "about that woman's purpose in giving up her room. Without alarming the ladies by telling them what I have just told you, can you not warn Agnes to be careful in securing her door?" Lord Montbarry replied that the warning and already been given by his wife, and Agnes might be trusted to take good care of herself and her little bed fellow. For the rest, he looked upon the wonderful story of the countess and her superstitions as a piece of theatrical exaggeration, amusing enough in

itself, but quite unworthy of a moment's serious attention. While the gentlemen were absent from the botel, the room which had been arready associated with so many startling circumstances became the scene of another strange event;

in which Lady Montbarry's eldest child was concerned. Little Marian had been got ready for bed as usual, and had (so far) taken hardly any notice of the new room. As she kneit down to say her prayers she happened to look up at that part of the ceiling above her which was just over the head of the bed. The next instant she alarmed Agnes by starting to her feet with a cry of terror, and pointing to a small brown spot on one of the white paneled spaces of the curved ceiling. "It's a spot of

blood!" the child exclaimed. "Take -me away! I won't sleep here!" Seeing planniy that it would be useless to reason with her while she was in the room, Agnes hurriedly wrapped Marian in a dressing gown and carried her back to her mother bling girl. The effort proved to be useless! room (No. 13A), which was now entirely at the impression that had been produced on the "I immediately proposed to see Mrs. James." | young and sensitive mind was not to be reseized her. She was quite unable to say why out leaving word at what hour she might be the spot on the ceiling looked like the color of expected to return. I have written a little 2 spot of blood. She only knew that she note of thanks, saying that we hope to haved should die of terror if she saw it again. Un-

was left. It was arranged that the child should pass the night in the room occupied by In half an hour more Marian was peacefully asleep with her arm around her sister's neelt. Lady Montbarry went back with Ag-With these words Lady Montbarry left nes to her room to see the spot on the ceiling It was so small as to be only just perceptible, and had in all probability been caused by the

"I really cannot understand why Marian should place such a terrible interpretation on of Ruphael in the Vatican. The massive such a triffing thing," Lady Montbarry re-

> the danger of exciting a child's imagination. Lady Montbarry looked round the room

"Is it not prettily decorated?" she said. "I suppose. Agnes, you don't mind sleeping here by yourself?" Acues laughed "I feel so tired," she replied, "that I was thinking of bilding you good night, instead of going back to the drawing room.

Lady Mostbarry turned toward the door. "I see your j wel case on the table," she resumed. "Don't forget to look the other door there, in the dressing room." "I have already seen to it, and tried the ker myself," said Armes. "Can I be of any use to you before I go to bed?" "No, my dear, thank you; I feel sleepy

enough to follow your example. Good night, Agnessand pleasant dreams on your first night in Venice."

Abead of Time.

Florence Times. The Bishopville Enterprise of last week contained an editorial congratulanoticed that Agnes was not wearing her ting those people living within its, watch. Had the left it in her bed chamber in I bounds on the formation of the county of Florence. We acknowledge the Ludy Montburry advising her as she went | compliment paid our earnest efforts in cut to see to the security of her bed chamber this good canse, and while appreciating in the event of there being thieves in the the kindly sentiments of the Enterprise, house. Agnes found her watch, forgotien, yet it was a little ahead of the times, for the Senate has not yet taken cettion,

> Now that the Senate "has to tion on the bill" congratu

which is now draped up on exhibition. As the day appointed for drawing falls on Sunday we will have it the following day,